

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS**

2615 S. Grand Avenue, Suite 100
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90007



United We Stand



Joseph N. Smith
Director

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

June 19, 2012

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The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS: AGREEMENT WITH THE
CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS TO PROVIDE VETERANS CLAIM
SERVICES FOR THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS HOME
OF CALIFORNIA, LANCASTER**

SUBJECT

Approve and authorize the Director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to execute an agreement with the California Department of Veterans Affairs in the amount of \$51,300 for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015, to provide veterans claim services for the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Home of California, Lancaster.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Approve and authorize the Director of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs to negotiate and execute an agreement in substantially similar form to the attached Standard Agreement (Exhibits A, B, C, D, and Attachment 1) with the California Department of Veterans Affairs in the amount of \$51,300 for the term effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015, to provide veterans claim services for the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Home of California, Lancaster. Salary and employee benefit costs for a part-time employee who will be assigned to this project will not exceed \$51,300 for the term of the agreement and will be reimbursed by California Department of Veterans Affairs.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

This agreement will provide the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CDVA) claims assistance

to the Veterans Home of California, Lancaster in accessing veterans' federal, state or local services.

With an increasing number of returning Iraq/Afghanistan veterans, the aging veteran population, and the growing number and complexity of veteran's claims, there is a need to address added claims assistance to these veterans.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended action is consistent with the Los Angeles County Strategic Plan Goal 1, Operational Effectiveness, to maximize the effectiveness of the County's processes, structure, and operations to support timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public services and Strategic Plan Goal 3, Integrated Services Delivery, maximize opportunities to measurably improve client and community outcomes and leverage resources through the continuous integration of health, community, and public safety services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The revenue received from this agreement will offset a portion of the cost of an existing full-time Veterans Claims Assistant who will provide services on a part-time monthly basis. The agreement will continue through June 30, 2015 and funds from this program will be budgeted as part of the annual budget. There is no net County cost associated with this agreement.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The CDVA contacted the Los Angeles County Department of Military & Veterans Affairs (DMVA) in January 2009 requesting that the County provide assistance for the review of all new applicants to the CDVA, Veterans Home in Lancaster, and to assist residents in obtaining veterans benefits. On June 9, 2009, DMVA entered into agreement 08LA0009 with CDVA to provide claims assistance at the CDVA Veterans Home in Lancaster which ended on April 30, 2012.

CDVA now seeks to enter into a new agreement with DMVA, for continued assistance with veterans claims at the same Veterans Home in Lancaster. The Agreement term will be in effective July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2015.

Approval of this Agreement will not involve any other Departments in the County and will not have any adverse impact on County employees.

Exhibits A, B, C, D and Attachment 1 of the draft agreement with CDVA provide additional information.

The proposed agreement has been reviewed and approved as to form by County Counsel.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

Advertisement of State/County agreements on the Countywide Office of Small Business website is not applicable.


IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The signing of this Agreement will enable the County to continue its outreach to the veteran community.

CONCLUSION

Following board approval, the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board is requested to send the original Board letter and attachments to DMVA.

Respectfully submitted,


JOSEPH N. SMITH
Colonel, USMC (Ret.)
Director

JNS:tr

JOSEPH N. SMITH
Director

JNS: rb

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Chief Executive Officer